

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 891

By West

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ronald Lester Sharpe on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Lester Sharpe is one such estimable person who served with distinction for eighteen years as Manager of the Program and Accountability Review (PAR) Section in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development before taking a much deserved retirement on October 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, a lifetime resident of the Nashville area, Mr. Sharpe graduated from Donelson High School in 1961 before attending Vanderbilt University, studying accounting at the University of Tennessee at Nashville, and completing legal classes at Nashville Technical School; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Sharpe married his high school sweetheart, Sally Miriam Nell, and the loving couple treasured many years together before she went on to her great reward; the blessed union produced two children, W. Neil Sharpe and Miriam Lynn Sharpe MacGregor, as well as three beautiful grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sharpe found true love again and was joined in holy matrimony with Judith Boothe Sharpe in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Sharpe served with acumen and alacrity as the Vice-President and President of Neil Parts Rebuilders, Inc., in which positions he earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues and employees alike due to the exemplary quality of his work and his patient leadership style; and

WHEREAS, offering his boundless enthusiasm, tireless work ethic, and uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life, Mr. Sharpe oversaw eighteen hotels as the National Sales Director for Lexington Hotel Suites; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished and esteemed equestrian, Ronald Sharpe showed American saddle horses across the central and southeastern United States, served as the Vice-President of the Tennessee Horseman Association, and rendered sterling service as the Manager of Grounds and Stabling and the Ring Master for nine years at the Ellington Agriculture Center's annual horse show; and

WHEREAS, a talented athlete who is known for his sportsman-like conduct on and off the field, Mr. Sharpe performed brilliantly as the first baseman in his church's fast pitch softball league for seventeen years; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Mr. Sharpe and his family were honored by the *Donelson Herald* as the Donelson Family of the Year in 1968; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sharpe has expressed his devout Christian faith as an active member of the Hickory Bend United Methodist Church in Donelson for the past forty-five years, where he faithfully serves his Lord on several committees and as a Sunday School Teacher; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sharpe is an active and important part of his community and his profession and has participated in numerous worthy organizations, including having served as a board member of the Donelson Christian Academy, Automotive Parts Rebuilders Association, and the Buchanan Log House; the President of Hickman School's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and Nashville's chapter of the Hotel Sales and Marketing Association; a member of the John B. Garrett Lodge, Scottish-Rite, and Al Menah Shrine; and a lifetime member of the Kiwanis Club International; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sharpe exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Ronald Sharpe demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we extend to Ronald Lester Sharpe our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.